12-12020-mg Doc 6579 Filed 03/03/14 Entered 03/03/14 19:18:48 Main Document Pg 1 of 21

Hearing Date: Objection Deadline:

TO BE DETERMINED June 2, 2014 at 12:00 p.m. (ET)

Rubenstein Associates, Inc.

1345 Avenue of the Americas, 30th Floor

New York, N.Y. 10105

Telephone: 212-843-8000 Facsimile: 212-843-9200

Howard J. Rubenstein

Corporate Communications Consultant for the Debtors

### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

	)	
In re:	) Cas	se No. 12-12020 (MG)
	)	,
RESIDENTIAL CAPITAL, LLC, e	<u>t al</u> ., ) Cha	apter 11
	)	
Debto	rs. ) Joii	ntly Administered
	)	

SUMMARY OF FINAL APPLICATION OF RUBENSTEIN ASSOCIATES, INC. AS CORPRATE COMMUNICATIONS CONSULTANT FOR THE DEBTORS FOR COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES INCURRED FOR THE PERIOD MAY 14, 2012 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2013

This is a(n): monthly	interimX final application.
Name of Applicant:	Rubenstein Associates, Inc. ("Applicant")
Authorized to Provide Professional Services to:	Residential Capital, LLC, et al. (collectively the " <b>Debtors</b> ")
Date of Retention:	Order entered on July 16, 2012 retaining Applicant <i>nunc pro tunc</i> to May 14, 2012
Period for which Compensation and Reimbursement is sought:	May 14, 2012 through April 30, 2013 (the " <b>Application Period</b> ")
Amount of Compensation Sought as Actual, Reasonable and Necessary:	\$38,276.00
Amount of Expense Reimbursement Sought as Actual, Reasonable and Necessary:	\$9,920.93

#### **Summary of Monthly Applications for Final Application Period**

Applicant: Rubenstein Associates, Inc.

Case No.: 12-12020 (MG) - In re Residential Capital, LLC, et al.

Final Fee Period: 05/14/2012 - 04/30/2013

Date Filed	Compensation Period	Requested Fees	Requested Expenses	Fees Paid	Expenses Paid	20% Holdback
08/23/2012	05/14/2012 – 07/31/2012	\$24,922.25  Net of UST Objection	\$3,632.68  Net of UST Objection	\$24,922.25	\$3,632.68	\$5,096.95
09/21/2012	08/01/2012 - 08/31/2012	\$225.00	\$0.00	\$225.00	\$0.00	\$45.00
10/10/2012	09/01/2012 - 09/30/2012	\$4,732.50	\$0.00	\$4,732.50	\$0.00	\$946.50
11/29/2012	10/01/2012 – 10/31/2012	\$4,953.75	\$1,671.50	\$4,953.75	\$1,671.50	\$990.75
12/28/2012	11/01/2012 – 11/30/2012	\$1,125.00	\$1,867.00	\$1,125.00	\$1,867.00	\$225.00
02/28/2013	01/01/2013 – 01/31/2013	\$1,635.00	\$1,058.25	\$1,635.00	\$1,058.25	\$327.00
04/19/2013  Due to the nominal amounts, this statement combines	02/01/2013 – 03/31/2013	\$682.50	\$1,691.50	\$450.76	\$1,691.50	\$136.50

February & March 2013compensable time and expenses						
n/a  Application not filed since no fees were earned or expenses incurred during this period	04/01/2013 – 04/30/2013	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL	05/14/2012 – 04/30/2013	\$38,276.00	\$9,689.19	\$38,276.00	\$9,920.93	\$7,767.70

#### Summary of Monthly Applications for First Interim Application Period Pursuant To Court Order Filed December 28, 2012 – Doc # 2530

Case No.: 12-12020 (MG)

Case Name: In re Residential Capital, LLC, et al.

Previous Interim Fee Period: 05/14/2012 - 08/31/2012

(1) Applicant	(2) Date/Document Number of Application	(3) Interim Fees Requested on Application	(4) Fees Allowed <sup>1</sup>	(5) Fees to be Paid for Current Fee Period <sup>2</sup>	(6) Interim Expenses Requested	(7) Expenses Allowed
Rubenstein Associates, Inc.	10/11/2012 [1794]	\$25,709.75	\$25,147.75	\$21,209.83	\$5,055.83	\$3,632.68

#### Note:

As of the March 3, 2014 filing date for the Final Application Period, the unpaid balance due from First Interim Application Period is **\$0.00**.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Reflects deductions for write-downs and amounts adjourned to subsequent fee hearings.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Reflects allowed fees, less 10% holdback, less reductions in expenses.

## Summary of Monthly Applications for Second Interim Application Period Pursuant To Court Order Filed April 29, 2013 – Doc # 3556

Case No.: 12-12020 (MG)

Case Name: In re Residential Capital, LLC, et al.

Previous Interim Fee Period: 09/01/2012 - 12/31/2012

(1) Applicant	(2) Date/Document Number of Application	(3) Interim Fees Requested on Application	(4) Fees Allowed	(5) Fees to be Paid for Current Fee Period <sup>1</sup>	(6) Interim Expenses Requested	(7) Expenses Allowed
Rubenstein Associates, Inc.	03/14/2013 [3171]	\$10,811.25	\$10,811.25	\$9,730.13	\$3,538.50	\$3,538.50

#### Note:

As of the March 3, 2014 filing date for the Final Application Period, the unpaid balance due from Second Interim Application Period is **\$0.00**.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Reflects allowed fees, less 10% holdback.

# Summary of Monthly Applications for Third Interim Application Period Pursuant To Court Order Filed July 24, 2013 – Doc # 3556

Case No.: 12-12020 (MG)

Case Name: In re Residential Capital, LLC, et al.

Previous Interim Fee Period: 09/01/2012 - 12/31/2012

(1) Applicant	(2) Date/Document Number of Application	(3) Interim Fees Requested on Application	(4) Fees Allowed	(5) Fees to be Paid for Current Fee Period <sup>1</sup>	(6) Interim Expenses Requested	(7) Expenses Allowed
Rubenstein Associates, Inc.	03/14/2013 [3171]	\$2,317.50	\$2,317.50	\$2,317.50	\$2,749.75	\$2,749.75

#### Note:

As of the March 3, 2014 filing date for the Final Application Period, the unpaid balance due from Third Interim Application Period is \$231.74.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Reflects allowed fees, less 10% holdback.

Rubenstein Associates, Inc. 1345 Avenue of the Americas, 30th Floor New York, N.Y. 10105 Telephone: 212-843-8000 Facsimile: 212-843-9200

Corporate Communications Consultant for the Debtors

Howard J. Rubenstein

### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

	)	
In re:	)	Case No. 12-12020 (MG)
	)	
RESIDENTIAL CAPITAL, LLC, et al.,	)	Chapter 11
· · · · — — ·	)	•
Debtors.	)	Jointly Administered
	)	,
	,	

THIRD INTERIM APPLICATION OF RUBENSTEIN ASSOCIATES, INC. AS CORPRATE COMMUNICATIONS CONSULTANT FOR THE DEBTORS FOR COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES INCURRED FOR THE PERIOD MAY 14, 2012 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2013

For its third interim application for compensation and reimbursement of expenses (the "Application") for the period May 14, 2012 through April 30, 2013 (the "Application Period"), Rubenstein Associates, Inc. ("Applicant"), corporate communications consultant to Residential Capital, LLC., *et al.*, as debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "Debtors"), respectfully represents as follows:

#### JURISDICTION, VENUE AND STATUTORY PREDICATES

- 1. This Court has jurisdiction over this Application pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334. This matter is a core proceeding within the meaning of 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2). Venue of this proceeding and this Application in this District is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.
- 2. The statutory bases for the relief requested herein are sections 330, 331, and 1103 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"), Rule 2016 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), and Rule 2016-1 of the Local Rules for the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York (the "Local Rules"). This Application has been prepared in accordance with General Order M-447, Amended Guidelines for Fees and Disbursements for Professionals in Southern District of New York Bankruptcy Cases, effective February 5, 2013 (the "Local Guidelines"), and the United States Trustee Guidelines for Reviewing Applications for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses Filed Under 11 U.S.C. § 330 effective January 30, 1996 (the "UST Guidelines" and, together with the Local Guidelines, the "Guidelines"). Pursuant to the Local Guidelines, a certification regarding compliance with the Local Guidelines is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

#### **BACKGROUND**

#### A. The Chapter 11 Cases

3. On May 14, 2012 (the "**Petition Date**"), each of the Debtors filed a voluntary petition in this Court for relief under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtors are managing and operating their businesses as debtors in possession pursuant to Bankruptcy Code sections 1107(a) and 1108. These cases are being jointly administered pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 1015(b). No trustee has been appointed in these Chapter 11 cases.

- 4. On May 16, 2012, the United States Trustee for the Southern District of New York (the "U.S. Trustee") appointed a nine member official committee of unsecured creditors (the "Creditors' Committee").
- 5. On June 20, 2012, the Court directed that an examiner be appointed, and on July 3, 2012, the Court approved Arthur J. Gonzalez as the examiner [Docket Nos. 454, 674].

#### B. Applicant's Retention and Interim Compensation

- 6. On July 16, 2012, the Court entered the Order Authorizing the Employment and Retention of Rubenstein Associates, Inc. as Corporate Communications Consultant to the Debtors Nunc Pro Tunc to the Petition Date [Docket No. 779], approving Applicant's retention.
- 7. On July 17, 2012, the Court entered the *Order Establishing Procedures for Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses of Professionals* (the "Interim Compensation Order") [Docket No. 797]. Pursuant to the terms of the Interim Compensation Order, Applicant, among others, is authorized to file and submit monthly fee applications to the Debtors and their counsel, counsel for the Creditors' Committee, counsel for Ally Financial Inc., counsel for Barclays Bank PLC, and the United States Trustee (collectively, the "Notice Parties").
- 8. On August 23, 2012, Applicant served its first monthly fee application covering the period from May 14, 2012 through July 31, 2012 (the "First Monthly Fee Application") on the Notice Parties. On September 21, 2012, Applicant served its second monthly fee application covering the period from August 1, 2012 through August 31, 2012 (the "Second Monthly Fee Application" and together with the First Monthly Fee Application the "Monthly Fee Applications") on the Notice Parties. Applicant did not receive any objections to the Monthly Fee Applications. On October 10, 2012, Applicant served its third monthly fee application

covering the period from September 1, 2012 through September 30, 2012 (the "Third Monthly Fee Application") on the Notice Parties. On November 29, 2012, Applicant served its fourth monthly fee application covering the period from October 1, 2012 through October 31, 2012 (the "Fourth Monthly Fee Application") on the notice parties. On December 28, 2012, Applicant served its fifth monthly fee application covering the period from November 1, 2012 through November 30, 2012 (the "Fifth Monthly Fee Application" and together with the Third and Fourth Monthly Fee Applications the "Monthly Fee Applications") on the Notice Parties. Applicant did not serve a monthly fee application covering the period December 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012 on the Notice Parties as no fees were earned or expenses incurred during this period. Applicant did not receive any objections to the Monthly Fee Applications. On February 28, 2013, Applicant served its sixth monthly fee application covering the period from January 1, 2013 through January 31, 2013 (the "Sixth Monthly Fee Application") on the Notice Parties. On April 19, 2013, Applicant served its seventh monthly fee application covering the period from February 1, 2013 through March 31, 2013 (the "Seventh Monthly Fee Application" and together with the Sixth Monthly Fee Application the "Monthly Fee Applications) on the notice parties. Due to the nominal amount of compensable time earned during February and March 2013, the Seventh Monthly Fee Application reflected the combination of time entries and related expenses for this two-month period. Applicant did not serve a monthly fee application covering the period April 1, 2013 through April 30, 2013 on the Notice Parties as no fees were earned or expenses incurred during this period. Applicant did not receive any objections to the Monthly Fee Applications.

9. The total payments received by Applicant as of the date hereof for fees and expenses related to the Application Period are equal to: (i) 100% of requested compensation

from the Monthly Fee Applications and (ii) 100% of requested expenses from the Monthly Fee Applications. Specifically, to date, the Applicant has received payments totaling \$47,965.19, representing \$38,044.26 in fees and \$9,920.93 in expenses.

- of the professional services required by the Committee. These records are maintained in the ordinary course of Applicant's practice. For the convenience of this Court and all parties in interest, attached hereto as <a href="Exhibit B">Exhibit B</a> is a billing summary for the Application Period, setting forth the name of each public relations professional and project assistant who rendered services during the Application Period, the aggregate time expended by each public relations professional and project assistant, the hourly billing rate for each public relations professional and project assistant at Applicant's current billing rates, and the individual amounts requested for each professional. The compensation requested by Applicant is based on the customary compensation charged by comparably skilled practitioners in other similar cases under the Bankruptcy Code.
- 11. Applicant also maintains computerized records of all expenses incurred in connection with the performance of professional services. A summary of the amounts and categories of expenses for which reimbursement is sought is attached hereto as <u>Exhibit C</u>.
- 12. Copies of Applicant's computerized records of fees and expenses in the format specified by the Guidelines have been served on the Notice Parties with each of the Monthly Fee Applications and are attached hereto as <a href="Exhibit D">Exhibit D</a>.
- 13. There is no agreement or understanding between Applicant and any other person for the sharing of compensation to be received for services rendered in the Chapter 11 Cases.
- 14. The Monthly Fee Applications submitted by Applicant are subject to a 20% holdback (as is customary in this District) imposed by the Court on the allowance of fees.

Applicant respectfully requests, in connection with the relief requested herein, that the Court allow this holdback amount on an interim basis pursuant to sections 330 and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code and authorize the Debtors to satisfy such amounts.

### DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES AND EXPENSES AND RELIEF REQUESTED

- 15. In general, Applicant has represented the Debtors in connection with the following aspects of the Chapter 11 Cases:
  - (a) developed and implemented communications programs and related strategies and initiatives for communications with the Debtors' key constituencies (including customers, employees, vendors, mortgage holders and the media) regarding the Debtors' operations and financial performance and the Debtors' progress through the chapter 11 process;
  - (b) developed public relations initiatives for the Debtors to maintain public confidence and internal morale during these Chapter 11 Cases;
  - (c) prepared press releases and other public statements for the Debtors, including statements relating to major chapter 11 events;
  - (d) prepared other forms of communication to the Debtors' key constituencies and the media, including customer letters and other materials;
  - (e) monitored media in connection with Debtor; and
  - (f) performed such other communications consulting services as may be requested by Debtors.
- 16. Time entries maintained by the Applicant and referenced above have not been assigned specific project categories. In light of the limited nature of the Applicants representation of the Debtors, it would not be meaningful to summarize the services rendered by

Applicant on behalf of the Debtors during the Application Period by task code, as they would essentially all fall into the same or similar classification. Accordingly, Exhibit D does not provide for such classification, nor is one provided for in this summary paragraph.

17. The foregoing descriptions of services rendered by Applicant in specific areas are not intended to be exhaustive of the scope of Applicant's activities in the Chapter 11 Cases. The time records attached hereto as Exhibit D present more completely the work performed by Applicant in each billing category during the Application Period.

#### **CONCLUSION**

- 18. Applicant believes that the services rendered during the Application Period on behalf of the Debtors were reasonable and necessary within the meaning of Bankruptcy Code section 330. Further, the expenses requested were actual and necessary to the performance of Applicant's services.
- 19. Applicant therefore requests an order (i) approving final compensation in the amount of \$38,276.00 and final reimbursement of expenses in the amount of \$9,920.93,<sup>1</sup> (ii) directing payment of all compensation held back in connection with the Monthly Fee Applications, and (iii) granting such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

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The rates charged for such expenses are (i) equivalent to what Applicant normally bills to its non-bankruptcy clients and (ii) calculated to compensate Applicant for only the actual costs of the expenses.

Dated: March 3, 2014

Howard J. Rubenstein

Rubenstein Associates, Inc.

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New York, N.Y. 10105

Telephone: 212-843-8000

Facsimile: 212-843-9200

Corporate Communications Consultant

for the Debtors

#### **EXHIBIT A**

### CERTIFICATION STATEMENT REGARDING COMPLIANCE WITH LOCAL GUIDELINES FOR COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES

Pages A-1 Through A-3

Corporate Communications Consultant for the Debtors

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTO	CY COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEV	W YORK

	· )	
In re:	)	Case No. 12-12020 (MG)
	)	
RESIDENTIAL CAPITAL, LLC, et al.,	)	Chapter 11
Debtors.	)	Jointly Administered
	_ )	

CERTIFICATION UNDER GUIDELINES FOR FEES AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR PROFESSIONALS IN RESPECT OF THIRD INTERIM APPLICATION OF RUBENSTEIN ASSOCIATES, INC. AS CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS CONSULTANT FOR THE DEBTORS FOR COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES INCURRED FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2013 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2013

#### I, Howard J. Rubenstein, hereby certify that:

- 1. I am the President with the applicant firm, Rubenstein Associates, Inc. (the "**Firm**"), which serves as Corporate Communications Consultant to Residential Capital, LLC., *et al.*, as debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "**Debtors**").
- 2. This certification is made in respect of the Firm's compliance with the Amended Guidelines for Fees and Disbursements for Professionals in Southern District of New York Bankruptcy Cases, Administrative Order M-447, effective February 5, 2013 (the "Local Guidelines"), the United States Trustee Guidelines for Reviewing Applications for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses Filed Under 11 U.S.C. § 330, adopted on January 30, 1996 (the "UST Guidelines") and the Order to Establish Procedures for Interim Monthly Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses of Professionals (the "Interim Compensation Order") [Docket No. 172], and collectively with the Local Guidelines and UST

Guidelines, the "Guidelines"), in connection with the Firm's application, dated March 3, 2014 (the "Application"), for final compensation and reimbursement of expenses for the period commencing May 14, 2012 through and including April 30, 2013, in accordance with the Guidelines.

- 3. In respect of Section B.1 of the Local Guidelines, I certify that:
  - (a) I have read the Application;
  - (b) to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief formed after reasonable inquiry, the fees and expenses sought fall within the Guidelines;
  - (c) the fees and disbursements sought are billed at rates and in accordance with practices customarily employed by the Firm and generally accepted by the Firm's clients; and
  - (d) in providing the reimbursable services reflected in the Application, the Firm did not make a profit on those services, whether performed by the Firm in-house or through a third party.
- 4. In respect of Section B.2 of the Local Guidelines and as required by the Interim Compensation Order, I certify that the Firm has complied with the provisions requiring it to provide the United States Trustee for the Southern District of New York and the Debtors and their attorneys with a statement of the Firm's fees and expenses accrued during the previous month.
- 5. In respect of Section B.3 of the Local Guidelines, I certify that each of the Debtors, their attorneys, and the United States Trustee for the Southern District of New York is being provided with a copy of the Application.

Dated: March 3, 2014

Howard J. Rubenstein

Rubenstein Associates, Inc.

1345 Avenue of the Americas, 30th Floor

New York, N.Y. 10105

Telephone: 212-843-8000

Facsimile: 212-843-9200

Corporate Communications Consultant

for the Debtors

#### **EXHIBIT B**

A-3

### SUMMARY OF COMPENSABLE TIME BY PUBLIC RELATIONS PROFESSIONAL RUBENSTEIN ASSOCIATES, INC. ON BEHALF OF THE DEBTORS FOR THE PERIOD MAY 14, 2012 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2013

Name of Professional Person	Position	Hourly Billing Rate	Total Hours Billed	Total Compensation
H. Rubenstein	President	\$750.00	0.30	\$225.00
M. Horowitz	Senior Executive Vice President	\$525.00	11.95	\$6,273.75
W. Anderson	Executive Vice President	\$475.00	2.60	\$1,235.00
A. Stockham	Vice President	\$375.00	53.10	\$17,250.00
T. Kresler	Vice President	\$375.00	24.30	\$9,018.75
M. Sopher	Project Assistant	\$185.00	20.10	\$3,718.50
F. Dixon	Project Assistant	\$185.00	3.00	\$555.00

Blended Hourly Rate \$ 331.82

Total hours Billed: 115.35

GRAND TOTAL: \$38,276.00

#### **EXHIBIT C**

B-1

# SUMMARY OF EXPENSES BY CATEGORY INCURRED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS PROFEESSIONAL RUBENSTEIN ASSOCIATES, INC. ON BEHALF OF THE DEBTORS FOR THE PERIOD MAY 14, 2012 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2013

Expense Category	Service Provider (if applicable)	
AIRFARE  GROUND TRANSPORTATION		\$ 362.30 200.08
LODGING		\$ 887.30
MEALS PR NEWSWIRE		\$ - 8,471.25
TOTAL EXPENSES:		\$ 9,920.93